Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01

DODE-00 H-03 SAJ-01 PRS-01 SIL-01 LAB-06 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DRC-01 /091 W

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R 081844Z FEB 74 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0322

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 02174

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KOHL), GW SUBJECT: KOHL VISIT

REF: STATE 26114

- 1. DR. HORST TELSCHIK HAS CONFIRMED TO THE EMBASSY THAT HE EXPECTS TO ACCOMPANY DR. KOHL TO ALL HIS MEETINGS. KOHL'S INTERESTS ARE GENERAL RATHER THAN SPECIFIC AND ARE CENTERED ON THE FUTURE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COMMUNITY WITH EMPHASIS ON US TROOP LEVELS IN EUROPE AND US-EEC RELATIONS. HE IS PREPARED TO GIVE WHAT HE DESCRIBES AS A CDU RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S ADDRESS OF LAST APRIL REGARDING THE FUTURE OF THE US/EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP, AS WELL AS THE PARTY'S THOUGHTS ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. HE WILL ALSO WISH TO DISCUSS BILATERAL US/GERMAN MATTERS AND CURRENT MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, PARTICULARLY MBFR AND CSCE.
- 2. KOHL BELONGS TO THE LIBERAL WING OF THE CDU, IS VERY FRIENDLY TOWARD THE US, WILL ARGUE VEHEMENTLY FOR THE CONTINUATION OF US TROOPS IN EUROPE AT CURRENT LEVELS (THERE ARE SOME 115,000 US TROOPS AND DEPENDENTS IN HIS LAND, RHEINLAND PFALZ), STRONGLY SUPPORTS IN PRINCIPLE THE IDEA OF A EUROPEAN OFFSET FOR THE COSTS OF US TROOPS IN EUROPE THOUGH HE IS NOT PREPARED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH DETAILED KNOWLEDGE, AND FEELS

THAT THE CURRENT SPD/FDP COALITION IS NOT FIRM ENOUGH IN ITS DEALINGS WITH THE EAST, PARTICULARLY WITH THE GDR IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRAFFIC AGREEMENT, NOR WITH LEFT RADICALISM IN THE FRG.

3. KOHL IS TAKING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT VERY SERIOUSLY BUT THE TRIP IS CLEARLY ALSO DESIGNED TO GIVE HIM SOME PUBLICITY IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT TO HELP BROADEN HIS IMAGE FROM THAT OF A PROVINCIAL POLITICIAN AS HE GIRDS HIMSELF TO SEEK TO BECOME THE CDU/CSU'S CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE IN 1976. (KOHL DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH BUT HIS WIFE DOES.)

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TAGS: OVIP, GE, (KOHL, HELMUT)

To: STATE

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